

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 09848 211423Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SSM-05 IO-13 EUR-12 SAM-01 SAB-01

ACDA-10 SSO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SCCT-01 OMB-01 /119 W
----- 089529

R 211334Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5416

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 9848

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR XF

SUBJECT: LEBANON AND EGYPTIAN PRESS

1. PRESIDENT ASAD'S JULY 20 SPEECH ATTACKING PALESTINIANS IS IGNORED BY TWO OF THREE MORNING PAPERS. ONLY GUMHURRIYA GIVES IT PASSING MENTION: "SYRIA WILL NOT WITHDRAW FROM LEBANON" UNLESS REQUESTED BY "LEGITIMATE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES". BY IGNORING ASAD SPEECH, PAPERS ARE ABLE ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE, BANNERING THAT "RECONCILIATION HAS AT LONG LAST BEGUN. "IN THIS CONTEXT, ARAFAT/ISKANDAR GEMAYEL MEETING IS REPORT-ED AS IS DECISION SEND QADDUMI TO DAMASCUS. AHRAM EXPECTS ARAFAT/PIERRE GEMEYEL MEETING WILL FOLLOW IF THE TWO SIDES IMPLEMENT MEASURES ALREADY AGREED UPON.

2. EDITORIALISTS CONTINUE TO AVOID CRITICISM OF SYRIA,

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EVEN PASSING UP CHANCE TO ATTACK ASAD FOR HIS DENUNCIATION

OF PALESTINIANS PREVIOUS NIGHT.

3. PRESS CARRIES ALSO REPORT THAT SOMALIA HAS INFORMED
ARAB LEAGUE IT IS UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ARAB PEACEKEEPING
FORCE "BECAUSE OF DOMESTIC CIRCUMSTANCES." (COMMENT: TO
BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, SOMALIA WAS NEVER SPECIFICALLY
INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.)
EILTS

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NNN

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